

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DACCA 01235 280953Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
AID-05 PC-01 /065 W
-----060664 281305Z /43

R 280837Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8252
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 1235

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT PGOV BG
SUBJECT: NEW POLITICAL PARTY MANIFESTO

REF: DACCA 1094

1. VICE PRESIDENT SATTAR, CONVENOR OF THE JATIYABADI GANATANTRIK DAL (JAGODAL), ANNOUNCED THE DETAILS OF THE NEW PARTY'S POLICIAL PROGRAM AT A NEWS CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 27. IN A BRIEF STATEMENT CONTAINING NO SURPRISES, SATTAR SAID THE PARTY BELIEVED IN A STRONG PRESIDENTIAL GOVERNMENT ELECTED ON UNIVERSAL ADULT SUFFRAGE, A PARLIAMENT SUPREME IN ITS LAW-MAKING AUTHORITY AND WITH CONTROL OF THE BUDGET AND AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY.

2. GIVING FEW DETAILS BEYOND A BARE OUTLINE OF THE PROPOSED GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE, SATTAR SAID THAT THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DACCA 01235 280953Z

PARLIAMENT, ELECTED ALSO UNDER UNIVERSAL FRANCHISE, WOULD BE SUPREME "IN ITS OWN SPHERE." NO DETAILS WERE GIVEN ON THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE PARLIAMENT OR ON HOW DISPUTES BETWEEN THE TWO MIGHT BE RESOLVED.

3. CONCENTRATING MORE ON PARTY PHILOSOPHY THAN GOVERNMENT

STRUCTURE, SATTAR EXPLAINED THAT JAGODAL WOULD BE BASED ON SOCIALISM DEFINED AS "SOCIAL JUSTICE." HIGHEST PRIORITY WOULD BE PLACED ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT. OTHER PARTY OBJECTIVES WOULD INCLUDE STRENGTHING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER, "PROGRESSIVE AND MULTIPURPOSE" HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING POLICIES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BASED ON A "COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT."

4. IN FOREIGN POLICY, THE PARTY WOULD BE GUIDED BY "MALICE TOWARD NONE." IT WOULD OPPOSE EXPANSIONISM AND HEGEMONISM WHILE SEEKING TO CONSOLIDATE FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL MUSLIM AND THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. COOPERATIVE EFFORTS WOULD BE MADE FOR AMITY WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

5. REPLYING TO QUESTIONS FOLLOWING THE FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT, SATTAR SAID THAT THERE WAS NO LEGAL BAR ON PARTY MEMBERSHIP FOR THOSE HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE (A MOOT POINT CONSIDERING THE NUMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORS ON THE CONVENING COMMITTEE). HE STATED ALSO THAT THE PARTY BELIEVED IN OPEN POLITICS AND EARLY ELECTIONS (AN ALMOST UNIVERSAL DEMAND RECENTLY OF ALL PARTIES). ON THE IMPORTANT QUESTION OF THE FOURTH AMENDMENT, TACKLED ON TO THE ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION BY SHEIKH MUJIB IN HIS EFFORT TO GIVE ABSOLUTE POWER TO THE PRESIDENCY, SATTAR SAID THAT "UNDEMOCRATIC" ELEMENTS WOULD BE REMOVED. IN HIS CONCLUDING REMARKS, SATTAR ADDED THAT ANY POLITICAL PARTY WOULD BE WELCOME TO JOIN JAGODAL.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DACCA 01235 280953Z

6. PRESIDENT ZIA HAS NEITHER OFFICIALLY JOINED NOR ALLUDED TO THE PARTY BEING ORGANIZED IN HIS BEHALF. HE USED HIS FIVE-DAY SWING THROUGH CHITTAGONG DISTRICT (REFTEL) TO EXHORT, AS USUAL, THE POPULACE TO GREATER DEVELOPMENT ACHIEVEMENTS. WHETHER HE OFFICIALLY ASSOCIATES HIMSELF NOW OR LATER, HOWEVER, IT IS CLEAR, AS EXPECTED, THAT ZIA INTENDS TO USE HIS NEW PARTY PLATFORM TO EXPAND HIS OWN PREFERENCE IN GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE FOR BANGLADESH.
BERGESEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DACCA01235
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780091-0809
Format: TEL
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978025/aaaaadr.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 39c8f2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 DACCA 1094
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3580298
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW POLITICAL PARTY MANIFESTO
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/39c8f2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014